Message Text

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42.

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAB-01 /093 W

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R 281010Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5014

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT/BAGHDAD UNN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

US MISSION GENEVA 655

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS BEIRUT 8212

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, UNRWA, PLO, US, UK, XF

SUBJECT: PLO LEADER FORCASTS ARAB CAMPAIGN TO OUST ISRAEL FROM

UNGA

1. IN BEIRUT DAILY STAR INTERVIEW CARRIED JUNE 27, PLO
POLITITICAL DEPARTMENT HEAD FAROUK QADDOUMI (ABU LUTF)
DECLARED THAT ARAB STATES WOULD SHORTLY LAUNCH CAMPAIGN
FOR QUOTE SUSPENSION UNQUOTE OF ISRAEL FORM UNGA QUOTE
REGARDLESS OF U.S. PRESSURE UNQUTE. HE SAID ARAB LEAGUE
WOULD TAKE QUOTE FINAL DECISION UNQUOTE ON CAMPAIGN QUOTE
IN ABOUT TWO WEEK'S TIME UNQUOTE.
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- 2. COMMENTING ON STATEMENT, ATTRIBUTED TO U/S SISCO, THAT U.S. WOULD WITHDRAW FROM UN IF ISREAL WERE SUSPENDED, QADDOUMI RETORTED THAT HE DID NOT CARE WHAT AMERICA DID. HE SAID U.S. AND BRITAIN MUST STOP ACTING AS WORLD POLICEMEN. IF U.S. WITHDREW FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM UN, HE ADDED, IT WOULD NOT BE SERIOUS SINCE ARABS COULD MAKE UP DIFFERENCE. HE LIKEWISE DISCOUNTED POSSIBILITY OF BACKLASH REACTION FROM COUNTRIES AIDED BY UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, ASSERTING: QUOTE FOOD AID TO SUCH NATIONS IS MERELY A METHOD OF PREVENT ING PEOPLE FROM TURNING TO REVOLUTION UNQUOTE. WITH REGARD TO UNRWA, HE SAID ARAB MONEY COULD REPLACE U.S. CONTRIBUTION, ALTHOUGH ARABS QUOTE WOULD OPT TO BUY PALESTINIANS MORE GUNS THAN FOOD UNQUOTE.
- 3. TURNING TO UNGA VOTE PROSPECTS, QADDOUMI ANTICIPATED ACHIEVING TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY, WITH SUPPORT FROM ISLAMIC, AFRICAN, THIRD WORLD, NON-ALIGNED AND SOME BUT NOT ALL SOCIALIST STATES. HE EXPRESSED HOPE OF SOVIET SUPPORT, INDICATING THAT PLO OFFICIAL MIGHT GO TO MOSCOW IN NEAR FUTURE TO DISSCUSS MATTER WITH RUSSIANS
- 4. ON INTER-ARAB SCENE, HE REJECTED QUOTE CURRENT FOREIGN INTERPRETATIONS UNQUOTE THAT PLO WAS BEING FROZEN OUT OF LATEST ARAB MANEUVERS. HE EXPRESSED COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN BOTH SYRIANS AND LIBYANS, ADDING THAT EGYPTIANS HAD BEEN ADVISED IN ADVANCE OF HIS RECENT VISIT TO LIBYA, WHICH HE TERMS EFFORT TO MAINTAIN ARAB SOLIDARITY. HE DESCRIBED CURRENT MANEUVER BY QADDAFI AGAINST SADAT (QUOTE INVOLING PERSONAL MATTERS, NOT POLICY UNQUOTE) ADDING THAT PLO CONTINUED TO REGARD QADDAFI AS QUOTE RELIABLE ALLY UNQUOTE EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS.
- 5. ASKED ABOUT CURRENT U.S. REASSESSMENT OF ME POLICY QADDOUMI FORESAW NOTHING IN IT FOR ARABS. HE CONTENDED THAT PRESIDENT FORD(QUOTE NOT EVEN AN ELECTED PRESIDENT UNQUOTE) AND SECRETARY KISSINGER WERE NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE ANY REAL REASSESSMENT BECAUSE OF VERY SERIOUS SPLIT BETWEEN CONGRESS AND WHITE HOUSE. HE SAW NO PROSPECTS OF MEANINGFUL U.S. REASSESSMENT UNTIL AFTER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS WHEN, HE SAID CONDITIONS WOULD HAVE CHANGED IN ME BECAUSE ARABS UNCLASSIFIED

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WERE NOT GOING TO WAIT UNTIL 1976 OR LATER.

6. COMMENTS: WE NOTE BAGHDAD INA (FBIS JN261518Z)
CARRIED PARALLEL QADDOUMI STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT PLO
HAD BEGUN CONTACTING ARAB AND FRIENDLY STATES TO PROMOTE
COORDINATED CAMPAIGN TO OUST ISRAEL AT UPCOMING UNGA.
ACCORDING TO INA TEXT, QADDOUMI STATED TOPIC WOULD BE
BROACHED AT ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN FIRST

HALF OF JULY AT JIDDA.

7. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT ALLEGED SISCO STATEMENT HAS AROUSED LOCAL INTEREST (INCLUDING NON-PALESTINIANS), REQUEST DEPT. PROVIDE US WITH TEXT.

GODLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE

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